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COUNTRY Romania

TOPIC Motor Vehicle Equipment of the Romanian Army

DATE OF CONTENT Prior to 21 February 1950

DATE PREPARED 9 January 1957

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1. Until February 1950, the Romanian Army was equipped with what were mostly old motor vehicles, but also with some new Czech and Soviet models. Passenger cars were Mercedes Benz, 6-cylinder Dodge, Ford V-8, Opel Olympia, Chrysler, Chevrolet, Buick, Soviet Popada and Soviet duplicates of the US Willys type. Trucks were Opel Blitz, old-type ZIS, Ford, Henschel and Studebaker. Prime movers were Skoda, Tatra, new-model ZIS with two differential gears, Canadian and German Ford and Studebaker. Armored personnel carriers were powerful Soviet vehicles, both half-track and full-track.
2. The old motor vehicles, which had been in operation for years, were badly worn and no longer met requirements. Motor vehicle breakdowns caused many substantial delays during the 1949 fall maneuvers. A general overhaul of the vehicles was handicapped by the shortage of spare parts, with tires also being a critical item.

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